

Get \$100 and Free Kitchen Kits

Sign up a Friend of Recycling and Composting (FORC) volunteer and your property will receive a one-time \$100 credit on its utility bill. If the volunteer attends an optional FORC training, the property will also receive free kitchen food waste buckets for all units! Residents appreciate these popular containers for carrying food scraps to the outdoor food and yard waste cart.

Surveys show that FORC volunteers and tenant education result in more successful recycling and food waste sorting. Take these steps to get started today:

- ✓ To sign up a FORC, go to www.seattle.gov/util/apartmentfoodwaste or call (206) 684-7665.
- ✓ To sign up for the FORC training (must be after FORC signup) call (206) 684-5223 or email melissa.martin@seattle.gov.
- ✓ FORC trainings and buckets are limited, so don't delay – call today!

For Apartments and Condominiums Only!
(5 or more units)



Plastics Unwrapped

Plastics Unwrapped, a new exhibit from the Burke Museum, explores how material culture was changed—rapidly and perhaps permanently—by plastics.

Before the 1950s, we hardly used plastics.

How did they go from being rare to being everywhere? Learn what life was like before plastics, how they are made, why they're so convenient and beneficial to use, and what happens after we throw them away.

Learn more about *Plastics Unwrapped* at www.burkemuseum.org.



The information in this newsletter can be made available on request to accommodate people with disabilities and those who need language translation assistance. Call Seattle Public Utilities at (206) 684-3000. TDD telephone number is (206) 233-7241. Please recycle this newsletter or pass it on to a friend. Printed on recycled paper made out of 100% post-consumer waste.

Don't Miss Compost Days

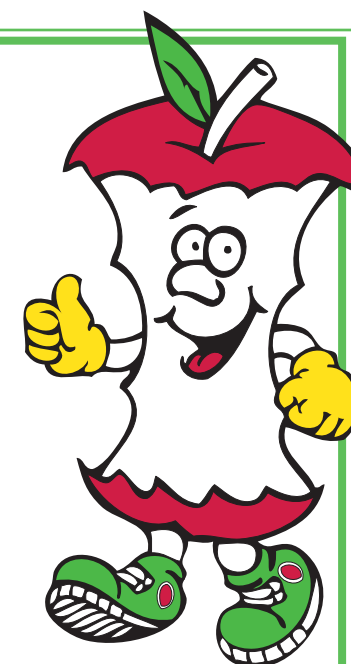
Last year, Seattle diverted 125,000 tons of food and yard waste from the landfill through curbside collection and backyard composting.

Way to go! Compost Days is celebrating Seattle's composting success by offering the biggest discounts of the year on compost and kitchen scrap composting products.

Now through April 15, Seattle Public Utilities and Cedar Grove Composting are offering coupons worth:

- 35% off kitchen food scrap containers
- Buy 2 bags of compost, get a 3rd bag free
- 33% off bulk compost
- And much, much more!

Look inside for Compost Days coupons!



Find Corey
and win
fabulous
prizes!

PRESORTED STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
SEATTLE, WA
PERMIT NO. 6000

Seattle Public Utilities
700 5th Avenue, Suite 4900
PO Box 34018
Seattle, WA 98124-4018

For interpretation services please call 206-684-3000.
如需要口譯服務，請撥電話號碼206-684-3000。
통역 서비스를 원하시면 206-684-3000으로 전화하세요.
Wixii turjubaan afka ah ku saabsan, Fadlan la soo xariir taleefoonka: 206-684-3000.
Para servicios de interpretación por favor llame al 206-684-3000.
Para sa serbisyo ng tagapagpaliwanag, tumawag sa 206-684-3000.
Vê dịch vụ phiên dịch xin gọi 206-684-3000.

Compost Days Coupons Inside!

Tips and Programs for Seattle Residents

Spring 2013

Seattle
Public
Utilities

CurbWaste & Conserve



Spring Clean starts April 1

It's time for Spring Clean — Seattle's premier community cleanup event. Seattle Public Utilities invites you and your neighbors to participate April 1—May 31.

Help pick up litter, stencil storm drains, paint out graffiti, remove invasive plants, or join an event in your community. All Spring Clean projects are on public property. Volunteers receive free litter cleanup bags, gloves, safety vests, and waste disposal permits.

Get started today:

- ✓ Call (206) 233-7187 or
- ✓ Sign up online at www.seattle.gov/util/SpringClean

Free Auto Leaks Class

Keep oil and other fluid leaks from your car from harming our local waterways and wildlife. Join the experts at South Seattle Community College's Automotive Technology Program for a **FREE auto leaks class — a \$45 value!** Watch our video and hear what past participants have to say: www.youtube.com/FixOilLeaks.

All participants get their car assessed and receive a **free spill kit**. If you learn you have a leak, we'll give you the confidence to talk to your mechanic about repairs.

Classes are offered on April 20 and May 18 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. **Hurry! Space is limited.**

To register:

- ✓ Call (206) 684-3936 or
- e-mail joel.banslaben@seattle.gov

\$100,000 Neighborhood Recycling Rewards!

Seattle Public Utilities, CleanScapes and Waste Management are offering \$100,000 in prizes to help residents reduce waste and recycle more in their neighborhoods. Recent winners include communities in the Roosevelt, Ravenna-Bryant, Wedgwood and Rainier Valley neighborhoods.

You can help earn some green for your neighborhood by making your neighborhood greener! Learn how at www.seattle.gov/util/recyclingrewards.

BigDig

Can you dig it?

Play the Big Dig — a

fun and family-friendly
scavenger hunt!.

Find Corey the
Compostable

Apple Core and
win free compost!



Hosted by Ciscoe Morris,
the Big Dig will also give
contestants the chance to
win fabulous home and
garden prizes. To learn more,
visit www.cgcompost.com.



For a complete list of store locations, hours and directions,
visit www.cgcompost.com or call (877) 764-5748

Compost Days

Free Bag of Compost

**Buy 2 bags of
Cedar Grove
Compost
Get a 3rd Bag
Free!**

Coupon valid 3/15/13–4/15/13
at participating retailers.



CODE: 725949

35% off Kitchen Scrap Kits



**Back by popular demand, these
attractive and convenient
containers make collecting food
scraps clean and easy!**

For a limited time, get a kitchen food scrap
collector with 20 compostable bags and a pack
of organic lettuce seeds for just \$13.99 plus tax.

Limit: 4 kits per coupon, per purchase. Seattle residents
only. Offer valid 3/15/13 – 4/15/13. Visit cgcompost.com for
participating retailers or call 877-764-5748.

33% Off Bulk Compost

**Buy 2 yards of compost,
get the 3rd yard free!**

Available at Cedar Grove Landscape Yards or order online
and have it delivered to your home!
For locations or to order visit cgcompost.com or call 877-764-5748.
Valid for pick-up or deliveries from 3/15/13 to 4/15/13.

Grass, Not Just for Cows



Grasscycling returns nutrients to the lawn and
promotes deeper roots. Best of all, you don't have to
drag clippings to the curb . . . Moo!

Grasscycling tips:

- Grasscycle with any mower; just leave the bag off.
- Shopping for new mower? Buy a mulching mower.
- Keep mower blades sharp.
- Mow when the grass is dry if possible.
- Raise mowing height or mow more frequently during
fast spring growth.
- Fertilize in fall instead of spring, for slower growth
and less work mowing.

Grasscycling and Mulching Mower Tips:

www.gardenhotline.org

Garden Questions? Ask the Experts at the Garden Hotline:

(206) 633-0224 | help@gardenhotline.org

Free Gardening Help

Hot spring gardening tip:

Mulch the surface of your garden beds after
your spring weeding. A 2 to 3-inch thick
layer of compost or wood chip mulch will
conserve soil moisture when spring
warms up, delay the need to
begin watering, and feed the
soil — helping all plants
to thrive. This will also
help keep weeds out, and
make it easier to hand pull
weeds that do take hold.



Our free Savvy Gardener classes

are designed to inspire gardeners and
share practical advice on creating and
maintaining healthy, beautiful landscapes
that are good for you and the environment.

Sponsored by the Saving Water
Partnership and Cascade Water
Alliance, view upcoming
classes and subscribe to
our free electronic class
notification service at
[www.savingwater.org/
education_classes.htm](http://www.savingwater.org/education_classes.htm).



ASK I've got an old computer and TV lying around. What do I do with them?

TVs and computers contain hazardous waste and never go
into the garbage. Households can recycle TVs, computers,
laptops, and monitors for free at several locations. Go to
www.ecyclewashington.org or call **1-800-RECYCLE**.
Printers and keyboards or other electronics may be
accepted at some locations. Fees may apply.

To have your old TV or computer picked up for \$20,
call Seattle Public Utilities at **(206) 684-3000**.

My apartment doesn't have a food waste cart. Isn't it the law?

By City of Seattle law, all Seattle apartment and condo buildings must subscribe
to a food and yard waste cart, and the cart needs to be available for residents
to use. There are a few cases where a building has an exemption but most
buildings qualify.

If you can't find the green cart at your property, first ask your manager. If that
doesn't help, call **(206) 684-7665** and ask for assistance. Your name will remain
anonymous but we will notify the manager of their responsibility to provide a
cart for anyone in the building to use.

Educational assistance will also be offered. You may wish to tell the manager
that there is a one-time \$100 utility bill credit through the Friend of Recycling
and Composting program. Find out more at [www.seattle.gov/util/
apartmentfoodwaste](http://www.seattle.gov/util/apartmentfoodwaste).

Why can't I put plastic bags in the food and yard cart?

Plastic bags do not break down into compost like grass, food, cardboard or paper
does, so they aren't allowed in the food and yard waste cart. Same goes with
coffee cups and other coated paper products, like ice cream cartons — they
contain a thin layer of plastic, so they can't go in the food and yard cart.

The big green bags in apartment building food and yard waste carts are
approved compostable bags made with vegetable material. Approved
compostable bags have been tested by the compost facility to make sure they
will decompose along with the food scraps. Approved compostable bags also
come in small sizes for home use.

A recent survey of apartment residents revealed that more than 70% of
respondents compost their food scraps at least once a week. Nearly 9 out of 10
use a reusable container, an approved compostable bag, or a plain brown paper
bag to store and carry them to the cart.

For a list of approved brands of compostable bags and a list of retail stores that
supply them, go to www.seattle.gov/util and search "compostable bags."

Get more information: Visit www.seattle.gov/util/lookup,
follow Ask Evelyn on Facebook www.facebook.com/EvelyntheEnvelope
or write to Ask Evelyn, PO BOX 34018 Seattle, WA 98124-4018.